

Lewis Kamb

From: Public Relations PR <pr@scouting.org>
Sent: Tuesday, May 7, 2019 1:40 PM
To: Lewis Kamb
Cc: Kevin Nichols
Subject: Re: Settlement of lawsuit in WA state

Categories: Red Category

Hi Lewis -

Thanks for your attention to this matter. We are hoping you can update your story to include the information and statement below.

We can confirm that this matter has been resolved and we have reached a mutually agreed upon settlement. The following statement may be attributed to Kevin Nichols, Scout Executive/CEO, Mount Baker Council, Boy Scouts of America.

"We are outraged there have been times when Scouts were abused and we sincerely apologize to victims and their families. Nothing is more important than the safety and protection of children in our Scouting programs – it is our top priority.

"In the many years since these alleged actions occurred, we have continued to evaluate and strengthen our efforts to protect youth. This focus has led us to ensure our policies and procedures are in line with and, where possible, ahead of society's knowledge of abuse and best practices for prevention. We also regularly consult with experts from law enforcement, child safety, psychology, and other relevant fields.

"The BSA also offers unlimited counseling with a provider of their choice to any youth member, former youth member, or the family of any youth member who suffered abuse during their time in Scouting. The BSA has a toll-free helpline (1-844-726-8871) and email contact address (scouts1st@scouting.org) for these sensitive matters."

On background, we have maintained a Volunteer Screening Database for many years to prevent individuals accused of abuse or inappropriate conduct from joining or re-entering our programs, a practice recommended in 2007 by the Centers for Disease Control for all youth-serving organizations. We have continued to strengthen this tool over the years to ensure all who are suspected of child abuse or inappropriate behavior are removed entirely from Scouting and immediately reported to law enforcement.

Beyond that, please understand we cannot comment on the specific details of settlements or litigation. For more information about the BSA's youth protection policies, please visit bsayouthprotection.org.

Regards,

Noelle

PR@Scouting.org

From: Lewis Kamb <lkamb@seattletimes.com>

Sent: Monday, May 6, 2019 6:05 PM

To: Public Relations PR

Subject: RE: Settlement of lawsuit in WA state

Hi,
Is the BSA planning to comment about the settlement in the lawsuit I've asked about?
If so, I would need the comment ASAP. My deadline has passed.

Thanks,
Lewis Kamb
Reporter
The Seattle Times
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From: Public Relations PR [mailto:pr@scouting.org]

Sent: Monday, May 6, 2019 10:08 AM

To: Lewis Kamb <lkamb@seattletimes.com>

Subject: Re: Settlement of lawsuit in WA state

Hi Lewis,

Thanks for reaching out. Can you please share your deadline?

Regards,
Noelle
PR@Scouting.org

From: Lewis Kamb <lkamb@seattletimes.com>
Sent: Monday, May 6, 2019 12:05:07 PM
To: Public Relations PR; Kevin Nichols
Subject: Settlement of lawsuit in WA state

Good afternoon,

I'm a reporter with The Seattle Times who is covering the recent settlement of a sexual abuse lawsuit against the Evergreen Area Council BSAA, and the national BSA.

I've attached a copy of suit, which was brought last year in King County (WA) Superior Court by a plaintiff known as "B.B." who alleges he was molested in 1983 by two BSA volunteers who were named in BSA's "ineligible volunteer" files.

I've interviewed B.B., and his attorneys, about his claims. I would like to get a comment from each of your groups.

Please give me a call as soon as possible.

Thanks,

Lewis Kamb
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